

Please add claims 22 and 23 as follows:

22. (New) A connector adapted to connect a storage container for solution ingredients to a medical apparatus, the connector being disposed adjacent an outlet of the storage container and comprising an identifier, the identifier comprising a bar code, the identifier indicating a type and quantity of the solution ingredients, the identifier being arranged to indicate a position of the connector to determine incomplete connection to the medical apparatus, wherein the bar code indicates a pattern when the connection is complete, and a different pattern when the connection is incomplete.

23. (New) The connector as recited in claim 22 wherein the medical apparatus is a dialysis machine.

Please cancel claims 11, 20, and 21, without prejudice.

REMARKS

Claims 11, 12, 20, and 21 were pending in the present application prior to entry of this amendment. By this amendment, claim 12 has been amended; claims 11, 20 and 21 have been canceled without prejudice; and new claims 22 and 23 have been added. These amendments do not add any new matter to the present application, and support for these amendments can be found in the specification at, *inter alia*, page 5, lines 15-16. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 12, 22 and 23 are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 11 to 12 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,997,502 ("Reilly et al."). This rejection is now moot with regard to canceled claims 11 and 20. As to claim 12, this claim has now been amended to depend from new claim 22. As explained below, new claim 22 is believed to be allowable, and thus Applicants also believe amended claim 12 to be allowable. Applicants therefore respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.